

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMISSION

The fourteenth meeting of the Interpreter Licensure Board was held on Thursday, May 13, 2010, at the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission Office, 1630 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, Illinois.

I. Call to Order

Becki Combs, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.

Members Present:

Dana Craig
Somone Bowman
Becki Combs

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel
Teri Hedding
Karen Janssen

Paul Menkis
Janet Lambert, Acting Interpreter Coordinator

Members Absent:

None.

Interpreters:

Sheila Chapman, CSC

Marilyn Corlett, CSC

Public:

Todd Williams, Illinois State Board of Education

IDHHC Staff Present:

Tonia Bogener, Legal Counsel

Karen Janssen, Secretary, asked to discuss the role of Interpreter Licensure Board Secretary in order to clarify requirements for the minutes. Tonia Bogener, IDHHC Legal Counsel, reviewed what is required for the official minutes of the Licensure Board.

II. Approval of Minutes

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved to approve the minutes as presented. Somone Bowman seconded. All in favor: Becki Combs, Somone Bowman, Dana Craig, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis. Opposed: None. Abstained: None. Motion carried.

III. Interpreter Coordinator Report

<u># of licenses YTD</u>	<u>621</u>
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Master	192
Advanced	154
Intermediate	208
Provisional	67

Inactive	4
Expired	72 (12 out of state)

Complaints

FY 09	9 Filed
	3 Closed, no jurisdiction
	1 Consent order
FY 10	15 Filed
	9 Closed, no jurisdiction (3 warning letters sent)
	1 Consent order

The Board was informed of potential reasons warning letters may be sent. Discipline options were also reviewed.

IV. Conference Committee Report

The IDHHC Conference for interpreters will be May 21 - 22, 2010. There are 200 interpreters registered. Next year's conference will be June 3 - 4, 2011.

The Board recessed from 10:20 to 10:36 a.m.

V. Unfinished Business

a. Closed Meeting in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(15) IDHHC Knowledge Based Test

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved to close the meeting in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(15). Somone Bowman seconded. Dana Craig recused herself from the closed meeting seconded. All in favor: Becki Combs, Somone Bowman, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None. Abstained: Dana Craig. Motion carried.

Becki Combs, Chair, reconvened to open meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Somone Bowman moved to eliminate Questions 6, 10, 11 and 19 from the scoring of the pilot Deaf Interpreter Knowledge Based Test administered on March 12 - 13, 2010 at IDHHC. Shelley Engstrom-Kestel seconded. Discussion: Based on the results of the pilot test, questions 6, 10, 11 and 19 had a higher than normal error rate and should be removed from the test. All in favor: Becki Combs, Somone Bowman, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis. Opposed: None. Abstained: Dana Craig. Motion carried.

Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved that 73% be considered passing for the pilot of the Deaf Interpreter Knowledge Based Test administered on March 12-13, 2010, at IDHHC. Karen Janssen seconded. Discussion: Based on results of the pilot test, a passing percentage should be established in order to give results to those who took the pilot test. All in favor: Becki Combs, Somone Bowman, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis. Opposed: None. Abstained: Dana Craig. Motion carried.

Janet Lambert moved to table all future testing of the pilot IL Deaf Interpreter Knowledge Based Test until it is determined whether the Massachusetts Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission is willing to lease or sell its Deaf test. Discussion: The Massachusetts test may be more valid and reliable than the Illinois Pilot Deaf Interpreter Knowledge Based Test. IDHHC has already contacted Massachusetts Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission and is awaiting a response. All in favor: Becki Combs, Somone Bowman, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis. Opposed: None. Abstained: Dana Craig. Motion carried.

Teri Hedding moved that IDHHC review and consider purchasing or leasing from the Massachusetts Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission its Deaf Test. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Becki Combs, Somone Bowman, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis. Opposed: None. Abstained: Dana Craig. Motion carried.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

b. State Interpreter Performance Test

IDHHC was waiting for the contract between Illinois and Texas to be returned and signed by both states to finalize the lease of the Texas BEI. The first rater training is tentatively scheduled for June 18 - 19, 2010, to be held at the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago, IL. Based on the current licensed interpreter in Illinois, 89 interpreters potentially qualify for raters based on criteria required by the Texas BEI. Up to 30 will be selected for the initial training. A second rater training will be scheduled partially based on availability of the Texas staff. Licensure Board members cannot be raters. The Board discussed the potential cost of the BEI, other states using the BEI and how it affects us. Candidates who take the BEI can be granted a Provisional License while awaiting test results. The IDHHC Interpreter Coordinator will oversee administration of the BEI in Illinois. Testing oversight needs to be kept separate from the Licensure Board to avert an inherent conflict of interest.

The Board recessed from 2:15 to 3:00 p.m.

VI. New Business

a. Fiscal Year 2011 Meeting Dates

The Board discussed frequency of meetings and potential dates for meeting in FY 11. Shelley Engstrom-Kestel moved that the Licensure Board meet on the following dates during FY 2011: September 16, 2010, March 3, 2011 and June 2, 2011. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis. Opposed: None. Abstained: None. Motion carried.

b. Amendments to Interpreter Licensure Rules

Tonia Bogener, Legal Counsel, reviewed the process of amending the licensure rules in order to accommodate the BEI as an accepted credential for state licensure.

Teri Hedding asked for clarification of rules pertaining to Deaf Interpreters from other states working in Illinois temporarily.

Teri Hedding moved that Deaf Interpreters from other states must have 20 hours of interpreter-related training to be eligible to work at the Intermediate Level in Illinois. No second. Motion withdrawn.

c. Mentorship Programs

The Board discussed whether there is a need and desire for mentorship programs to be included in the licensure rules. There are rules in place to cover ITP students, but no way licensed interpreters to increase their proficiency through working with interpreters at a higher license level. There is an organized mentorship program with Sorenson VRS and there have been other mentorship programs in Illinois none of which universally cover all interpreters. Janet Lambert suggested at the next meeting to review other mentorship programs and start discussing what a Mentorship Program would look like in Illinois. IDHHC Legal Counsel will review the law and rules to determine where mentorship will best fit into Illinois licensure.

Becki Combs moved that the Licensure Board (Karen Janssen and Becki Combs) will develop FAQ's regarding ITP's with assistance from IDHHC Staff. Janet Lambert seconded. Discussion: Licensure Board members discussed that ITP's should all have access to appropriate and consistent information in order to appropriately advise ITP students what they can and cannot do for work upon completion of their ITP Program. All in favor: Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis. Opposed: None. Abstained: None. Motion carried.

VII. Adjournment

Somone Bowman moved to adjourn the meeting. Paul Menkis seconded. All in favor: Becki Combs, Dana Craig, Somone Bowman, Shelley Engstrom-Kestel, Teri Hedding, Karen Janssen and Paul Menkis; Opposed: None; Abstained: None. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Becki Combs, Chair

Date

Karen Janssen, Secretary

Date

APPROVED